

Notes about Chinese morphemes *ba*, *bao* and Tupi nominalizer *(a)ba*.

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Abstract

In these preliminary notes we will seek to show that the Chinese morpheme *ba* with the function of classifier or affix in the different Chinese languages seems to present a correspondence or parallelism with the nominalizer *(a)ba* of the different Tupi languages¹, which may show a possible common Asian origin.

Chinese classifiers or measurement words are an obligatory and frequent instrument in nominal expressions in modern Chinese languages, where certain nouns are preceded or qualified by a numeral. For example, we can translate in Mandarin that ‘axe’ is 斧頭 *fǔtóu*, but if we want to refer to ‘one axe’ we cannot simply say 一斧頭 *yī fǔtóu* ‘one axe’, so we will have to use a classifier, which, in this case, is 把 *bǎ* and results in 一把斧頭 *yī bǎ fǔtóu* ‘one axe’.

Similarly, classifiers are mandatory in other grammatical contexts, for example, when we use demonstratives like 這 *zhè* ‘this’ or 那 *nà* ‘that’. So, in a similar way, to express ‘this axe’ we cannot simply say 這頭 *zhè tóu*, but 這把斧頭 *zhè bǎ fǔtóu* ‘this axe’ or 那把斧頭 *nà bǎ fǔtóu* ‘that axe’. When the noun is alone, without any qualification, the classifier is dispensable.

There are still other uses of these classifiers, when placed after a noun or when they are doubled. In this case, it means a plural or indefinite quantity.

Finally, we can also mention that, like morphemes they can be part of a word without exactly exercising the function of classifiers.

On the other hand, we can see that in the Tupi languages there are nominalizers that convert a verb or adverb into a noun that are usually used in ‘dependent clauses’. Nominalization always occurs as a suffix. Look at the following example where *-aba* is the nominalizer and indicates an instrument:

Tupinambá *-apyk* ‘to sit’ > *-apykaba* ‘seat, bench, chair’.

Nominalizers can also indicate ‘an action/state noun’ and are also suffixed.

Kamaiura *-juka* ‘to kill’ > *-juka-tap* ‘killing action’.

The Tupi nominalizer, or simply Tupi morpheme, derives from Proto Tupi **-aβa* and manifests itself in the various modern Tupi dialects as *-a-*, *-ã-*, *-ab-*, *-aba-*, *-abm-*, *-ap-*, *asawa-*, *atupa-*, *-av-*, *-aw--awa-*, *-aβ-*, *-aβa-*, *-ba-*, *-ha-*, *-há-*, *-hap-*, *-pa-*, *-sap-*, etc.

This diversity of forms is only apparent and arises due to a phonetic rule in Tupi that requires the use of a vowel when the verb stem ends in a consonant.

Observe the Tupinambá *-apyk* + *-ba* > *-apykba* which forms a sequence *-bk-* that is very rare in Tupi.

In summary: if the verbal stem ends in a consonant, the nominalizer must begin with a vowel and if it ends with a vowel, the nominalizer may begin with the consonants *-t-* and *-p-* that alternate with *-r-* and *-w-*. These rules vary in the different Tupi languages.

In this preliminary text we will try to show that the Chinese *ba*, classifier or not, presents some relationships and a quite regular parallelism with the Proto Tupi nominalizer *(a)βa*, however, this does NOT mean that the nominalized nouns in Tupi are cognate with the classified nouns in

¹ The Tupi languages constitute a group of around 60 languages, extinct or not, spoken in South America where they are the main group of indigenous languages.

Chinese. For Chinese languages, we will address the classifiers/morphemes 1. 把 *bǎ*, 2. 巴 *bā*, 3. 疤 *bā*, 4. 靶 *bǎ*, 5. 耙 *bà*, 6. 包 *bāo*, 7. 胞 *bāo*, 8. 苞 *bāo* relating them to their origin in Middle Chinese. These classifiers, or simply morphemes, are manifested in the various modern Chinese languages as *bǎ*, *bà*, *bā*, *bá*, *baa*, *bǎi*, *be*, *pa*, *pá*, *pà*, *pé*, *pée*, *po*, etc.

In these preliminary notes we will try to show that these Chinese classifiers are related to the Tupi nominalizer where they perform similar functions and that this may strongly indicate a common origin. Finally we mention that other Asian languages with Sino-Xenic vocabulary also preserved this morpheme as the Japanese 把 *HA*, Korean 把 *pa* and Vietnamese 把 *bǎ*, *bǎ*, *bạ*, *bở*, *bữa*, *vả*, *vã*, *vồ*, *bá*, *bé*, *bửa*, *lả*, *sấp*, *trá*.

1. 把 *bǎ*

The morpheme 把 *bǎ*, from Middle Chinese *pae*^X, is used as: 'classifier or auxiliary/measurement word for objects that can be held using handles or knobs, such as gun, chair, seat, bench, broom, umbrella, knife, sword, blade, scissors, key, torch, oar, comb, and all nouns using this classifiers.

In the examples that follow we present many cases where there is some type of relationship between Chinese languages and Tupi languages. This, however, does NOT mean that the Chinese word is cognate with the Tupi. In the following cases we have a very characteristic use of this morpheme when performing the function of auxiliary verb/measurement word for things or tools with handle.

1.1. Axe

Mandarin 一把斧頭 *yī bǎ fǔtóu* 'one axe'.

Tupi: LGP *jykuasokaba* 'k. of axe', Jur *pítáhá* 'axe', SaM *iwihap*, SaMN *iha*, Way *kuwoap*, Xip *pítápa*.

1.2. Awl

Mandarin 一把錐子 *yī bǎ zhuīzi* 'one awl; CL'.

GnM *yvyra jo 'oa* 'awl (for wood), drill' GnM *yvyra mombua*.

1.3. Bench / chair

Mandarin 一把椅子 *yī bǎ yǐzi* 'two chairs' CL: 把 *bǎ*'.

Tupi: Tub *apikaβa* 'chairs', LG18 *oapikaba* 'bench', OGn *apikaβa*, Tub *apikaβa*, Kari *miki pa*, Awe *amiap*, SMa *amiap*, Chi *apika*, Gn *apika*, Teko *apika*, Wp *apika*, AsT *apikap*, Pak *apikaw*, Aik *apikawa*, Kar *apikawa*, Way *awōpe*, Kok *japikatupa*, Oma *japikatupa*, GaR *jaβà*, Kari *mikipa*, Mun *nǎjáp*, Jur *pikáhá*, Xip *pikápa*, Pak *tenaw*, Gj *wapikahá*, Ñe *wapikasawa*, UrK *wapikiha*, Amo *?apikawa*, Kay *?apikawa*, Par *?apikawa*, Tem *?apikawa*.

1.4. Broom

Mandarin 兩把掃帚 *liǎng bǎ sàozhǒu* 'two brooms; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.

Tupi: Gj *tipirahá* 'broom', Aik *pehitaw*, AsX *typyjava*, Kam *type'iap*, Pak *ytyapeiaw*, Pat *pehihaw*.

1.5. Brush

Mandarin 一把牙刷 *yī bǎ yáshuā* 'a toothbrush; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Cantonese 梳 *so* 'brush, comb; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.

Tupi: TeT *typéi(r)haw* 'brush', Pak *xo'ikytykaw* 'tooth brush'.

1.6. Chisel

Mandarin 一把錐 *yī bǎ záo* 'chisel, to bore a hole; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.

Tupi: LGP *jykuasokaba* 'chisel'.

1.7. Cleaver

Mandarin 一把菜刀 *yī bǎ cài dāo* 'vegetable cleaver, k. of knife; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Cantonese 菜刀 *coi dou* 'vegetable cleaver, k. of knife; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.

Tupi: Tub *apichaba* 'cleaver blow, slash'.

1.8. Comb

Mandarin 一把梳子 *yī bǎ shūzi* 'one comb; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Cantonese 梳 *so* 'a comb, brush; 把 *bǎ*'.

Tupi: LG18 *kibaba* 'comb', AčT *hedakõñãkihiab*, Aik *kiwaw* 'comb, acc. kyw- lice', Amo *kißawa*, Api *ziuwav*, Ara *tʃiβã*, AsT *kiwawa*, AsX *kiwaw*, *kiwawa*, Awe *?akiwap*, AsT *kiwaw*, Chi *kiwa*, Gj *kiwá*, *kiwaw*, *kiwap*, Gjj *kiwáu*, Gn *kiwa*, Gryo *kʷigʷa*, Jia *kißawa*, Juma *kigwa*, Kam *kiwap*, Kay *kiʔwap*, Kok *kiwa*, Mun *a mu sem mu sem ap*, Ñe *kiwawa*, Oma *kiwawa*, Par *kigʷaβ*, Pat *ky'gwav*, SaM *kiwa*, SuA *kiwawa*, Tap *kiwa*, Teko *kiwa*, Ten *kißawa*, TeT *kiwaw*, Tub *kiwaβ*, *kibaba*, UrK *kiwa*, UrW *kigʷaβ*, War *kiwo*, Way *kiwa*, Zo'e *kiwa*.

1.9. Dagger

Mandarin 一把匕首 *yī bǎ bǐshǒu* 'a dagger', Mandarin 一把鋒利的刀 *yī bǎ fēnglì de dāo* 'a sharp knife, dagger'.

Tupi: Tub *popiaba* 'dagger, bee sting, sting, snake tooth'.

1.10. Door

MCh 把 *pae*^x < OCh **pʰraʔ* / **praʔ* 'handle, handful, grip, hold' [classifier]

Tupi: . Aku *pepogap* 'door', Amo *hovapitimbawa*, Ara *wapiha*, Ari *akārapi*, GaR *zaβ βa*, Mek *pogap*, Mon *ekwá*, Mun *sãhtabí*, Par *owapitimbawa*, Pur *ahuá*, Tup *pokap*, UrW *juruwa*, War *oiruwapitiha*.

Comment: perhaps a derivation from MCh 把 *pae*^x that does not appear to occur in modern Chinese.

1.11. Fan (object), hand fan, shaker

Mandarin 扇把 *shànbǎ* 'handle of the fan; lit. fan-handle; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.

Tupi: LGA18 *pejusaba* 'fan (object), Tub *tatapekʷaβ*, *tatapejuaβ*, Tup *kopkaphiap*, Way *paokwap*, SuA *tatapekʷawa*, Pak *atapekʷaw*, AčT *tapekuab*, *tapekoaba*, Aik *tatapekʷawa*, AsT *tatapekʷá*, Gj *tatamaká*, Gjj *tatapekʷá*, Gryo *tapekʷa*, Ñe *tapekʷá*, UrK *tapekʷa*, War *tapekʷa*, Wp *tapekʷa*, XeD *tapekʷa*, Zoe *tapekʷa*, Gn -*apynhaha* 'k. of poker'.

1.12. Flower, blossom

Perhaps Mandarin 花 *huā* 'flower, blossom; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.

Tupi: SuP *holiráb* 'flower', SuP *kĩrãa*, Ñe *putxira*, Tub *mbotyra*, Tub *ybotyra*, AsT *ywotera*, AsX *ifotýra*, Tub *mbotyra*.

1.13. Grip (noun)

Mandarin 把 *bǎ* 'a firm hold or grip', Mandarin 把手 *bǎshǒu* 'grip, handle, knob'.

Tupi: OGn *kuákwahába* 'clip', GnM 'a *regwa* 'hair clip', Gn *ku'akwahaá* 'belt', AsX *ipirapykáwa* 'fishing net; acc. -pyyk- to grip', AsT *ipirapyhy(t)a* 'fishing net', AsT *ipirapykawa* 'fishing net', Tub *moaratã* 'press against something', Pat -*pyhyhaw* 'clip, fastener', SuP *léréngáb* 'button', Pak *moxe'egaw*, *moxe'ekaw* 'start button', Tub *aopotãia* 'clothing button', .

1.14. Firearm

Mandarin 一把槍 *yī bǎ qiāng* 'firearm, gun; shooter; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Cantonese 槍 *coeng* 'gun; firearm; shooter; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.
Tupi: Tub *mokaba* 'firearm'.

1.15. Guitar / String instrument

Mandarin 一把小提琴 *yī bǎ xiǎotíqín* 'one violin; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Mandarin 吉他 *jítā* 'guitar (loanword); CL: 把 *bǎ*'. Mandarin 二胡 *erhu* 'traditional chinese bowed string instrument with two strings; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.
Tupi: Tub *guararapeba* 'guitar'.

1.16. Hammer

Mandarin 榔頭 *lángtóu* 'hammer; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Mandarin 锤子 / 錘子 *chuízi* 'hammer; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Cantonese 鐮刀 *gaaidou* 'k. of knife; : CL: 把 *bǎ*'.
Tupi: Tub *itaponupāsaba* 'hammer', Pak *atokaw*, Gj *ma-é-ucaháw*, GnM *-mbotaa*, Gj *maéucaháw*.

1.17. Hand tool

1.17.1. Hoe

Mandarin 一把鋤頭 *yī bǎ chútóu* 'a hoe; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.
Tupi: Tap *ytypindav* 'hoe', Tub *itasyra*, *syra*.

1.17.2. Key

Mandarin 一把鑰匙 *yī bǎ yàoshi* 'key (object designed to open and close locks); CL: 把 *bǎ*'.
Tupi: Mun *tomudip'uk'ukap* 'key', GnM *oken mboia*,

1.17.3. Knife

Mandarin 一把刀 *yī bǎ dāo* 'one knife, blade, blade, single-edged sword, cutlass; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Mandarin 一把刀片 *yī bǎ dāopiàn* 'one blade; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Cantonese 老牛 *lou ngau* 'knife for cutting beef,
Tupi: Xip *medipa*, *k^wapá* 'knife', Pur *opá*, Aku *kipetin*, CiL *tape*, Mek *kipe*, Tup *potpe*, Tup *putpe* *si:i:t*, Jora *embe*, XeD *inapwa*, XeD *kitiha*, Amo *kitihaß*, Jur *k^waha*, Jur *mēdzihá*, Mon *tabe*, GaR *tábekor*, Gjj *takihe*, Mon *tambeá*.

1.17.4. Ladle, spoon

Mandarin 杓子 *sháozi* 'ladle, scoop, spoon; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Mandarin 湯匙 *tāngchí* 'tablespoon, soup spoon; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.
Tupi: SMa SMa *wamã-a-ape* 'wooden spoon', PMG **ape* 'ladle, bark', Tub *ybyrapesẽ*. 'wooden spoon', Pat *anhapuape* 'i' 'spoon', Tub *kuiپی* 'spoon', AsX *kwoipyáwa* 'large wooden spoon'.

1.17.5. Lock

Mandarin 一把鎖 *yī bǎ suǒ* 'a lock'; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Cantonese 鑰 *tà* '(metal) lock; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Mandarin 枷鎖 *jiāsuo* 'cangue and lock; stocks and chains; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.
Tupi: Tub *okendapaba* 'lock, padlock'.

1.17.6. Machete / Long knife

Mandarin 一把砍刀 *yī bǎ kǎndāo* ‘a machete; CL:把 *bǎ*’, Mandarin 一把長刀 *Yī bǎ zhǎngdāo* ‘one long knife’.

Tupi: SMa *kyse’yp*, *kyséhêp* ‘machete’.

1.17.7. Pen, pencil

Min Dong 筆 *bek* ‘pen, pencil; CL: 把 *bǎ*’

Tupi: AsT *petytsinga-mosywakawa* ‘pen, pencil’, AsX *-mopinimawa*, Pak *mopinimaw*.

1.17.8. Pocketknife

Mandarin 一把小刀 *yī bǎ xiǎodāo* ‘a pocket knife; CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Cantonese 刀仔 *douzai* ‘small knife; pocketknife CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Min Dong 刀囡 *dō-giāng* ‘small knife; pocketknife; CL: 把 *bā* / *bá*’, Mandarin 刀子 *dāozi* ‘small knife; pocketknife: CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi Xip *kuapá chinchin* ‘pocket knife’.

1.17.9. Pot

Perhaps Mandarin 茶壺 *chá hú* ‘teapot; CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: *igasaba* ‘k. of large pot’, AsX *ikwashára* ‘pot’.

1.17.10. Razor

Mandarin 一把剃刀 *yī bǎ tidao* ‘a razor; CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Mandarin 剃刀 *tìdāo* ‘razor’; CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Cantonese 剃刀 *taidou* ‘razor’; CL: 把 *ba*’.

Tupi: Tub *marupá* ‘bamboo razor’, Gjj *mutáu iokáw* ‘razor’.

1.17.11. Rudder, tiller

Mandarin 把舵 *bǎduò* ‘to hold the rudder, to hold (to take, to be at) the helm’, Mandarin 舵把 *duòbǎ* ‘tiller of a boat’.

Tupi: Tub *opytaerobakaba* ‘part of rudder, tiller’, Tub *jakumāyba* ‘helm handle of the vessel’.

1.17.12. Saw (tool)

Mandarin 一把鋸子 *yī bǎ jùzi* ‘saw (hand tool for cutting wood); CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Cantonese 鋸仔 *goe zai* ‘small saw; CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: SuP *larpoab* ‘hand saw’, GnM *yvyra kychia* ‘saw, hand saw’, Pak *manakaw* ‘sawyer’.

1.17.13. Scissor

Mandarin 一把剪刀 *yī bǎ jiǎndāo* ‘one pair of scissors; CL:把 *bǎ*’Mandarin 剪刀 *jiǎndāo* ‘scissors, CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Cantonese 鉸剪 *gaau zin* ‘scissors’: CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Hakka Sixian 剪刀 *chién-tô*, Hakka Meixian, Guangdong 剪刀 *jiên dau*, Min Nan Hokkien 剪刀 *chián-to*, Wugniu Shanghainese 剪 *ci-tau*.

Tupi: Xip *kerkerpá* ‘scissor’, Gn *jetapá*, GnM *jetapá*, Gj *zapiáw*, Pak *ʔawamanakaw*, *ʔawamakaw*, *ximanakaw*, Pat *kytihaw*.

1.17.14. Shovel, spatula

Mandarin 一把鏟子 *yī bǎ chǎnzi* ‘a shovel, a spade, trowel, spatula (kitchen utensil); CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: Kari *eppa* ‘paddle shovel, spatula’, Kuru *purawá* ‘oar, row (shaped like a shovel),

1.17.15. Stick

Mandarin 手杖 *shǒuzhàng* ‘walking stick, cane; CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Mandarin 拐杖 *guǎizhàng* ‘walking stick; cane; CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Mandarin 筷子 *kuài zi* ‘chopsticks; CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Mandarin 青藜 *qīnglí* ‘walking stick; cane; CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: Tub *pindayba* ‘stick for fishing, fishing rod’, GnM *po pygwa* ‘walking stick’, SuP *ipékab* ‘stick’, Gn *pinda yva* ? ‘fishing rod’, Wp *wira ra’y* ‘stick’.

1.17.16. Sword

Mandarin 一把劍 *yī bǎ jiàn* ‘one sword; CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: GnM *raimbe* ‘sword’.

1.17.17. Tool

Mandarin 一把扳手 *yī bǎ bǎnshǒu* ‘wrench (k. of tool); CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: AsX *akotyjap* ‘k. of tool’.

1.17.18. Tongs

Mandarin 一把鉗子 *yī bǎ qiánzi* ‘tongs, pliers, pincers, forceps, vise, clamp, claw (of a crab etc); CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: Tub *itakambyra* ‘any iron tool resembling tongs, compass or fork’, Ari *bólópa* ‘crab’.

1.17.19. Umbrella

Mandarin 一把傘 *yī bǎ sǎn* ‘one umbrella; CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Cantonese 縮骨遮 *suō gǔ zhē* ‘k. of umbrella; lit. shrink-bone-cover; CL: 把 *bǎ*’, Cantonese 長遮 *coeng ze* ‘k. of umbrella; CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: Kari asori *papa* ‘ewera ‘umbrella; lit. bat-wing-bone’.

1.18. Classifier for handful of small objects: handful.

Mandarin 把 *bǎ* ‘classifier for small objects: handful’, Mandarin 一把種子 *yī bǎ zhǒngzǐ* ‘handful of seeds’, Mandarin 一把沙子 *yī bǎ shāzi* ‘handful of sand’, Mandarin 一把麵粉 *yī bǎ miànfěn* ‘handful of flour’, Mandarin 一把豌豆 *yī bǎ wāndòu* ‘handful of peas’, Mandarin 一把子彈 *yī bǎ zǐdàn* ‘handful of bullets’, Mandarin 一把花生 *yī bǎ huāshēng* ‘handful of peanuts’, Mandarin 一把穀物 *yī bǎ yàowán* ‘handful of grains’, Mandarin 一把米 *yī bǎ mǐ* ‘a handful of rice’, Mandarin 抓起一把 *‘zhuā qǐ yī bǎ* ‘grab a handful’..

Tupi: PT **(k)ab*, ‘seed, sand, part’. (Petrucchi). PGn *po’a ryrū* ‘handful’, PGn *po’a ra’yī* ‘handful of seeds’, PGn *po’a yvyku’i* ‘handful of sand’, PGn *po’a arína rehegua* ‘handful of flour’, Mun - *añobumũnta* ‘necklace of seeds’, Mun *põnbimũnta* ‘bracelet of seeds’, Mun *musukta* ‘k. of cassava for flour’, Xip *ipia* ‘sand’, Ayu *awi* ‘seed’, Mun *káv* ‘seed’, SuP *ñõyñáb* ‘sand’, SuP *manáb* ‘nuts’, SuP *meenáb* ‘maiz’, SuP *patíkab* ‘lead grains’, SuP *páyáykáab* ‘rice grains’.

1.18.1. Ashes

Mandarin 一把骨灰 *yī bǎ gǔhuī* ‘handful of ashes; CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: Sio -*atába* ‘ashes’, GJ -*atapá*, SuP *māyom”gab*, Aik *atahyw*, Xe -*ataupa*.

1.18.2. Banana

Mandarin 一把香蕉 *yī bǎ xiāngjiāo* ‘handful of banana; CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: SuP *akóba* ‘banana’, Mun *akoxixiba*, *mókoba*, Mun *akoba*, Kuru *pawá*, Mun *ako’ũn’ũnpa*, Mun *akorurutpa*, Xip *pakoá*, GnM *pakova*, Tap *paãkohã*, Tub *pakoba*, Kuru *pawá*., Mun *xepxepa* ‘two bananas’.

1.18.3. Condiment

Perhaps Mandarin 一把蔥 *yī bǎ cōng* ‘a handful of condiment/shalot’; Mandarin 小蔥 / 小蔥 *xiǎo cōng* ‘shallot, spring onion; CL: 把 *bǎ*’.

Tupi: Pak *ma'exiromomarapaw* ‘seasoning, coriander; parsley’.

1.19. Classifier for bundles or bunches

Mandarin 一把韭菜 *yī bǎ jiǔcài* ‘a bunch of garlic chives’.

Tupi: Pak *pinaw* ‘bundle of straw’, Gn *apyā* ‘bunch, bundle, small bundle bouquet’, Tub *koybara* ‘bunch of dry branches’, Tub *apakuá* ‘bundle, bunch’.

Comment: note that this Chinese classifier went to Japanese as a counter: Jp 把 *WA / BA / PA* ‘counter for bundles’.

1.20. Classifier for fire.

Mandarin 點一把火 *diǎn yī bǎ huǒ* ‘to light a fire’.

Tupi: Ñe *mundyka* ‘light a fire’, Gn *-atapynha* ‘stoke the fire’, LG18 *tapekoaba* ‘fan; lit. fire-heat’.

1.21. Classifier for some abstract ideas, such as force, effort or age.

Mandarin 加把勁兒! *jiā bǎ jìn'r!* ‘make an extra effort!’, Mandarin 一把年紀 *yī bǎ niánjì* ‘an age’.

Tupi: Tub *kurimbaba* ‘strength, bravery, courage’, Gn *ára* ‘age’, OGn *ar(a)* ‘age’, Gn *javegwa* ‘same age’, PGn *mbarete* ‘force, strenght’.

Comment: Perhaps GnM *nhea'ā* ‘try with persistence, strive’.

1.22. Classifier for something done with the hand

Mandarin 帮你一把 *bāng nǐ yī bǎ* ‘to give you a helping hand’, Mandarin 把玩 *bǎwán* ‘to turn around in one's hands, to play with, to fiddle with’, Mandarin 一把好手 *yī bǎ hǎo shǒu* ‘expert, dab hand’

Tupi: SuP *hodagá* ‘hit with the hand of the pestle’, Tub *mopojaia* ‘deceive by pretending to give the hand’, PTG **peteka* ‘hit with the hand’.

1.23. Classifier for times of recreations

Mandarin 過把癮 *guò bǎ yǐn* ‘have fun, to satisfy a craving’, Mandarin 打把 *dǎbǎ* ‘to play...(majong etc.)’, Mandarin 把弄 *bǎnòng* ‘to play with, to finger’.

Tupi: Sir *mbaba* ‘to play’, Mun *kaypatpā*, OGn *-nhebangá* ‘to have fun’, PTG **jeβaŋa* ‘to have fun, play’ (Petrucci), Gj *mijuhukaká* ‘bathe (in river, lake, etc.)’, Tub *-orypaba* ‘feast, party, joy’

1.24. To grasp, to hold, to take.

In Modern Chinese (Mandarin) 把 *bǎ* can be translated as: to grasp, to guard, to hold, to watch’; in turn grasp can be translated as ‘seize and hold firmly’ and ‘a firm hold or grip’.

Note that this same Chinese morpheme is present in the Japanese 把 *HA, WA* ‘grasp; faggot; bunch’ and in the Korean 把 *pa* ‘to take; to hold’.

1.24.1. To contain

Mandarin 把 *bǎ* ‘to grasp, to contain’.

Tupi: Tub *porá* ‘to contain’.

1.24.2. To hold

Mandarin 把 *bǎ* ‘to grasp, to hold, to take hold of’ < MCh 把 *pae*^X < OCh **p^hraʔ* / **pra:ʔ* ‘grasp, hold’; Mandarin 把握 *bǎwò* ‘to grasp; to hold, to master’, Mandarin 把舵 *bǎduò* ‘to hold the rudder, to hold (to take, to be at) the helm’.

Tupi: PGn *ojokóva* ‘holding’, GaR *ma’á*, ‘to hold’, Kari *amāgaat* ‘to hold’, SuP *maã* ‘hold, take’, perhaps Tub *momyausuba* ‘to hold, take captive’, LGP *-á* ‘to hold, to catch’, Ñe *episika* ‘to hold, to catch’, Tub *pysyka* ‘to hold, to catch’.

1.25. To take

Mandarin 把酒 *bǎjiǔ* ‘take the wine’

Tupi: Tub *mba’epysykaba* ‘fork (the one who takes the food)’, GaR *ma’á* ‘take, hold’, SuP *maã* ‘take, hold’, AsX *tori-se’ega-pyykawa* ‘recorder (the one who takes the sound)’, LGP *-á* ‘take, hold’, Tub *ara* ‘take, grasp’, GnM *pira jopya* ‘fisherman (the one who takes the fish)’.

1.26. To understand

Mandarin 把 *bǎ* ‘grasp, hold’ < MCh 把 *pae*^X < OCh **p^hraʔ* / **pra:ʔ* ‘grasp, understand’.

Tupi: PTG **kuaaβ* ‘to understand, to know’, Tub *-ekokuaba* ‘understanding’, Aik *kuahaw*, AsX *kohap*, ChiA *-kwáa*, Gjj *kwaw*, Gn *-kuaá*, GnA *-kuaáb*, GnM *-kuaa*, PGn *-kuaa*, Gryo *-kuaa*, Kain *kwa’a*, Kaip *ikwá*, Kam *kwahap*, Kay *kuaap*, LGP *-kuáb*, Par *ikwáa*, Pat *-kwahaw*, *-gwahaw*, TeT *kwaw*, Tub *kuaba*, SMa *toikuap*.

Comment2: observe Jp 把 *BA* ‘grasp’.

1.27. To control, to dominate

Mandarin 把握 *bǎwò* ‘to grasp; to control; to dominate’, Mandarin 把控 *bǎkòng* ‘to control’, Mandarin 把持 *bǎchí* ‘to dominate, to control, to monopolize’.

Tupi: GnM *-eko jogwa* ‘take control of someone’s life; ‘to defend someone’s life’.

Comment: Note also Mandarin 伯 *bá* ‘to dominate, to tyrannize’ and Mandarin 霸占 / 霸佔 *bàzhàn* ‘to dominate, to occupy by force, to seize’.

1.27.1a. Mandarin 把頭 *bǎtóu* ‘labor contractor, gangmaster’.

Tupi: Tub *morubichaba* ‘chief, master’, Tub *ajurykaba* ‘a mythical chief’. PT ***-xaβ*, ***-čaβ*. ‘tribal chief’, Jur *-xáu*, *-txáu* ‘chief’, Xip *-exá* ‘chief’

1.28. To guard, to have control

Mandarin 把守 *bǎshǒu* ‘to guard; to defend’, Mandarin 把門 *bǎmén* ‘to guard a door or gate’, Mandarin 把關 / 把關 *bǎguān* ‘to guard a pass, to check on sth’.

Tupi: Tub *arōana* ‘a guard, a watchman’, Tub *-erekoara* ‘a guard, a watchman’, Tub *-esá* ‘guard, watch’.

1.29. To feel the pulse

Mandarin 把脉 *bǎ mǎi* ‘to feel the pulse, to take the pulse’.

Tupi: Kari *ñōgōhanĩmpa* ‘pulse pulsation’.

1.30. Bundle (n.), bunch

Mandarin 火把 *huǒbǎ* ‘torch (stick with a flame on one end)’.

Tupi: AsT *kanytsagawa* ‘firelamp, torch’, Pak *moapyterakwa* ‘lot of things’.

Comment: note that this Chinese morpheme is also present in the Japanese 把 *taba* ‘bundle, bunch; sheaf’.

1.31. Handle (n.), knob, grip (a part of an object which is held in the hand)

Mandarin 刀把 *dāobà* 'knife handle; hilt', Mandarin 把 *bǎ* 'handle (n.)', Mandarin 把手 *bǎshǒu* 'handle, grip, knob', Mandarin 把兒 *bàr* 'a handle', Mandarin 把子 *bàzi* 'handle'.
 Tupi: Tub *jy'yba* 'ax handle', SuP *-ab* 'handle', SuP *nābeab* 'ax handle', Kuru *purawá yb* 'oar handle', Kari *-op* 'handle (n.)', PT **ʔiβ* 'handle', Pak *kopy* 'handle', Kok *yba, ywa* 'handle'.

Comment: hand in Mandarin is 手 *shǒu*, so the approximation with the Tupi languages *po, pa, ba* 'hand' does not allow cognates unless we compare it to Mandarin 手把 *shǒubà* 'the hand'.

Comment: observe also Mandarin 把柄 *bǎ bǐng* 'handle, (fig.) information that can be used against somebody' in this case we have an abstract idea close to manipulation.

1.32. Stem (of a flower, leaf, fruit, etc.)

Mandarin 花把 *huā bǎ* 'flower handle/stem', Mandarin 葉把兒／叶把儿 *yèbàr* 'stem of a leaf'.

Tupi: Tub *maniyba* 'cassava stem', Tub *ka'aróá* 'stem', Tub *kará* 'stem', Tub *-wã*. 'stem'.

1.33. Placed after numerals or classifiers to express uncertainty; approximately

Mandarin 個把月 *ge bǎ yuè* 'approximately a month', Min Dong 十把日 *sɛi? pa ni?* 'approximately ten days' Mandarin 無把握 *wú bǎ wò* 'uncertain'

Tupi: perhaps Gn *-rehegwa* 'about', PT **nuṇa(ra)* 'something like that, like, more or less, almost, a little', GnA *nungára* 'like, thus', AsT *tsawa* 'uncertainty, doubt in declarative sentence'.

1.34. Careless, neglect

Mandarin 眉毛鬍子一把抓 *méi mao hú zi yī bǎ zhuā* 'careless'.

Tupi: Tub *-esaraitaba* 'neglect, forget, oblivion'.

1.35. Mop

Mandarin 拖把 *tuōbǎ* 'mop, scouring pad'.

Tupi: Tub *nha'ẽpykytykaba* 'k. of domestic mop'.

1.36. Play (trick)

Perhaps Mandarin 把戲 *bǎ xì* 'acrobatics, jugglery, cheap trick, game', Mandarin 變把戲 *biàn bǎ xì* 'to perform magic, to do magic tricks, prestidigitation'.

Tupi: Sir *mbaba* 'to play'.

1.37. Skill, ability

Mandarin 把式 *bǎshì* 'person skilled in a trade, skill', Mandarin 兩把刷子 *liǎng bǎ shuā zi* 'ability, skill'

Tupi: Tub *akatuaba* 'skill, dexterity, right hand', Tub *boyababa* 'slave skills', Gj *-kwá* 'ability/potential in verbal nuclei, to know'.

1.38. Throat, voice

Perhaps 把你的喉嚨 *bǎ nǐ de hóulóng* 'put your throat', Mandarin 嗓子 *sǎngzi* 'throat; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Mandarin 把嗓子 *bǎ sǎngzi* 'voice', Mandarin 聲線 *shēngxiàn* 'a person's voice, voice features or quality; CL: 把 *bǎ*', Cantonese 聲線 *seng sin* 'a person's voice, voice features or quality; CL: 把 *bǎ*'.

Tupi SuP *-páraba* 'throat', Tub *kurukaba* 'throat, gullet' Mun *a'õpi'a* 'voice'

2. 巴 *bā*

The morpheme 巴 *bā* is related to the previously studied 把 *bǎ*. Has its origin in MCh *pae* from OCh **p^{ra} / pra:* and expresses a large number of actions.

The main occurrences in Chinese dialects are: Cantonese *baa*, Gan *ba*, Hakka *pâ, pa*, Gin *ba*, Min Bei *bá*, Min Dong *bǎ*, Min Nan *pa, ba*, Wu Shangainese *pa, po*, Xiang *ba*.

We also mention that other Asian languages with Sino-Xenic vocabulary also preserved this morpheme as the Japanese 巴 *Ha*, Korean 巴 (바) *pa*, e Vietnamese 巴 *ba*.

2.1. Snake

Mandarin 巴 *bā* ‘a mythological huge snake’.

Tupi: PT ***^mpoj* [*^mpoi*] ‘snake’, GaR *bai*, Zoro *bai*, CiL *mbai*, Mun *pai*, SuP *hobó* ‘large snake’, Kari *boroja*, Kep *boj* [*boi*], Mun *ipi cerere bu* ‘mythological snake that moves under the soil’, Comment: compare Mun *puybu* ‘snake’ and Mandarin 虺 *huǐ* ‘mythical venomous snake’.

2.2. Nominalizing suffix for objects that are located below or behind.

1. Mandarin 下巴 *xiàba* ‘chin’, Mandarin 下巴颏 *xiàbakē* ‘chin’.

Tupi: TG **eniβa* ‘chin’, SMa *urênoá* ‘chin’, OGn *-endyba(a)* ‘chin’, Tub *-endyba* ‘chin’, Gryo *-endyba* ‘chin’, SMa *urênoá* ‘chin’, Aik *enywa* ‘chin’, Gjj *iniwá* ‘chin’, Kam *eniva* ‘chin’, Pak *enyw*, Tap *enywã* ‘chin’, TeT *-éniwa* ‘chin’, Wp *erenywa, edyba* ‘chin’, Pat *-endywa* ‘chin’, Pat *endyvahav* ‘beard, lit. chin hair, Chi *-endywáa* ‘beard’, Emr *endewará* ‘beard’, Ñe *eniwába* ‘beard’, Pak *enywahaw* ‘beard’, SMa *uretoá* ‘buttocks’.

2.1a. Mandarin 尾巴 *wěiba* ‘tail’.

Tupi: Mun *-doajbǎ, -toaybǎ* ‘tail’, Xip *iwatápa*, Kari *peteppa*, SMa *-uwaipo*, Pat *wayã*,

2.1b. Mandarin 掃把 *sàobǎ* ‘broom’, Cantonese 把 *soubaa* ‘broom’.

Tupi: Gj *tipirahá* ‘broom’.

2.3. Used as a suffix for objects that are clumped together due to dryness or stickiness.

Mandarin 泥巴 *níba* ‘mud’.

Tupi: Tub *taba* ‘mud’, Tub *tabatinga* ‘white mud’, SuP *wáyxibéáb* ‘mud’,

2.4. Close to, next to

Mandarin 巴 *bā* ‘be close to, close to, be next to’.

PT **joa* ‘close, united’ (Petrucci), Gn *joa* ‘together, all together’, Gn *joaju* ‘union, joint, agglomerate’, GnM *joa* ‘in the same place or time’, GnM *-je’a* ‘to be adjacent, to be side by side, to be together with; mix objects’

Comment: probably related to #3 above.

2.5. To greatly desire, to anxiously hope, to long for

Mandarin 眼巴巴 *yǎn bā bā* ‘waiting anxiously, impatient’.

Tupi: Gn *-potá* ‘want, desire, yearn’, Xip *-asaná* ‘want water’, SMa *ot-kesá* ‘do you want?’, SMa *teraan* ‘want’, GnM *ma’ena* ‘wait’.

2.6. Bundle (n.)

Mandarin 卷巴 *juǎn bā* ‘to bundle up’.

Tupi: Tupi: AsT *kanytsagawa* ‘firelamp, torch’, Pak *moapyterakwa* ‘lot of things’.

Comment: the same examples (in Tupi) as listed above for the morpheme 把.

2.7. Classifier for the number of slaps.

Mandarin 嘴巴 *zuǐbā* 'slap, mouth', Mandarin 嘴巴子 *zuǐbazi* 'slap', Mandarin 張開嘴巴 *zhāngkāi zuǐba* 'to open one's mouth', Mandarin 巴掌 *bāzhǎng* 'palm of the hand, CL for slap', Mandarin 一巴掌 *yī bā zhǎng* 'a slap, a spank', Cantonese 打佢一巴 *daa2 keoi5 jat1 baa1* 'to give him a slap'.

Tupi: , Tub *obapeteka* 'to slap, slap, slap in the face', Wp *porakape* 'palm of the hand', Sma *uy-paapiawa* 'palm of the hand', Sma *-popewá* 'palm of the hand', Tupi: Tub *bapytera* 'palm of the hand'.

Comment: perhaps just a coincidence.

2.8. Other cases

2.8.1. Cling to

Perhaps Mandarin 巴 *bā* 'to cling to'.

Tupi: GnM *-a'uva* 'to cling to'.

2.8.2. Dry

Mandarin 乾巴巴 *gān bā bā* 'dry, parched, dull, insipid'.

Tupi: PTG **tīpaβ* 'dry'.

2.8.3. Fierce

Mandarin 凶巴巴 *xiōng bā bā* 'fierce, savage, harsh'.

Tupi: Tub *kaguaiba* 'fierce, angry, exalted, wrathful'.

2.8.4. Kampe (ethnic group Tupi and Tibetan)

Mandarin 康巴 *Kāng bā Khampa*, subdivision of Tibetan ethnic group'.

Tupi: Kmp *Kampé* 'Tupian ethnic group'.

Comment: perhaps just a coincidence.

2.8.5. Mute, dumb

Mandarin 啞巴 *yǎba* 'mute, muted, a dumb person, to be dumb'.

Tupi: perhaps Gj - 'ĩ'yma 'á' 'mute'.

2.8.6. Obstruct (v.)

Mandarin 拖尾巴 *tuō wěi ba* 'to obstruct, to be a drag on sb, to delay finishing off a job'.

Tupi: PTG **aβai(βa)* 'impediment, difficulty', Tub *abaipába* 'impediment'.

2.8.7. Open, Spread open

Perhaps Mandarin (dial.) 巴 *bā* 'spread open'.

Tupi: *jaba* 'opening, fissure, crack', Tub *-jaba* 'open; acc. *-esajaba* open the eyes'.

2.8.8. Penis

Mandarin 雞巴 *jība* 'dick, penis (vulgar)'.

Tupi: Aku *toba* 'penis', Gyk *tawa* 'penis', Mak *aiwa* 'penis', Mata *gaap* 'penis', SuP *mamoa* 'penis', Jur *oatá* 'penis', Káro *cape*, Tub *â* 'glans, head of the virile member', Tub *-akuãia* 'penis, virile member', Tub *jaka* 'glans'.

Comment: Compare also Cantonese 雞巴 *gaibaa* 'cock, penis, dick' and Tupi: Jur *aa*, 'penis', Kuru *oðãʔa*.

2.8.9. Place

Mandarin 巴 *bā* 'place'.

Tupi: PTG **-aβ* ‘place’, PMG **-aβ* ‘place of’, Kari *-pa* ‘place’, PT **-ap* ‘place of; locative’, Kari *-pa* ‘place of’, SuP *ikoyáb* ‘lake; lit water-hole-place’ Xi *jabapa* ‘lake’, Mun *wuyjuyũ e’aweroroap* ‘square, plaza’, Kari *hotopa* ‘passage (place to walk)’, SMA *ɲetap*, *ǵetap* ‘house (place to sleep)’,

2.8.10. Stick

Mandarin 巴 *bā* ‘to stick to’.

Tupi: Aku *poro kap kip* ‘digging stick’, UrK *pikũj hapikũjha* ‘digging stick’.

2.8.11. Wish (v.)

Perhaps Mandarin 巴 *bā* ‘to wish’

Tupi: Tub *auauba* ‘to desire very much; redupl.’

3. 疤 *bā*

The morpheme 疤 *bā* has its origin in OCh *pra*: ‘scar; cicatrix, mark (on a tool or implement)’. This morpheme is present in various Chinese languages like Mandarin *bā*, Cantonese *baa¹*, Hakka (Sixian) *pā*, (Meixian, Guangdong) *ba¹*, Jin *ba¹*, Min Bei *bá*, Min Dong *bǎ*, Min Nan (Hokkien) *pa*, Teochew *ba¹*, Wu (Wugniu) (Shanghainese) *¹po*, Xiang (Changsha) *ba¹*.

3.1. Scar, scab

Mandarin 疤 *bā* ‘scar, scab’, Mandarin 瘡疤 *chuāngbā* ‘scar’, Mandarin 傷疤 *shāngbā* ‘scar, fig. remnant of former damage, remaining trauma’, Mandarin 疤痕 *bāhén* ‘scar’, Mandarin 刀疤 *dāobā* ‘scar from a knife wound’, Mandarin 結疤 *jiébā* ‘to form a scar, to form a scab’.

Tupi: Tup *parap* ‘scar’, Tup *porap* ‘wound’, Tub *pereba* ‘wound’.

3.2. Knot

Shangainese 節疤 *jiébā* ‘knot (wood), gnarl, scar between segments’.

Tupi: SuP *sokaba* ‘knot’.

4. 靶 *bǎ*

The morpheme 靶 *bǎ* has its origin in MCh *pae^H* from OCh * OCh **pra:s* and expresses ‘target or frisk’.

Some occurrences of this morpheme in Chinese languages are: Mandarin *bǎ*, Cantonese *baa²*, *baa³*, Hakka (Sixian) *pá*, Meixian, Guangdong *ba³*, Min Dong *bá*, Min Nan (Hokkien) *pé / pée / pá / pa*, (Teochew) *ba²*.

4.1. Target

Mandarin 靶 *bǎ* ‘target’, Min Nan 靶 *pé / pée / pá / pa* ‘target’, Mandarin 脱靶 / 脫靶 *tuōbǎ* ‘to shoot and miss the target, to miss, off the mark’, Mandarin 靶子 *bǎzi* ‘target’, Mandarin 靶场 / 靶場 *bǎchǎng* ‘shooting range, range’, Mandarin 靶心 *bǎxīn* ‘center of target, bull's eye’, Mandarin 靶纸 / 靶紙 *bǎzhǐ* ‘target sheet’, Mandarin 打靶 *dǎbǎ* ‘target shooting’, Mandarin 活靶子 *huó bǎzi* ‘live target, target (of criticism etc)’.

Tupi: Aik *-sepe* ‘target’, Tupi: Aik *awysepe* ‘miss the target’, AsT *-tsepe* ‘target’, Pak *-xepe* ‘target’,

4.2. Frisk

Mandarin 抄靶子 *chāo bǎzi* ‘(dialect) to do a body search, to frisk’

Tupi: Tub *suba* ‘to frisk, search in, scrutinize, scan’.

5. 耙 *bà*

The morpheme 耙 *bà* has its origin in OCh **bra:s* and expresses ‘harrow, to draw a harrow over (a field); to harrow’. Observe the occurrence in different Chinese languages: Mandarin *bà*, Cantonese *baa*³, Min Nan (Hokkien) *pê / pēe / pē / pâ*.

5.1. Harrow, grade

Mandarin 耙 *bà* ‘to harrow, a hoe, to draw a harrow over (a field)’; Cantonese 耙 *baa* ‘harrow’, Mandarin 耙地 *bàdì* ‘to harrow, to break the ground with a hoe’.

Tupi: GnM *yvy kychĩa* ‘harrow’, Kok *tshakata* ‘grade, grate, grid, gril’, Kari *kejepa* ‘rustic grill’, Tub *itajiraa* ‘iron grill’.

5.2. Guilt

Perhaps Mandarin 他倒打一耙, 要求赔偿 *Tā dàodǎyīpá, yāoqiú péicháng* ‘He hit back with an unfair demand for compensation’.

Tupi: ChiA *-réko-pégwa* ‘causality, guilt, culpability, because of’

Comment: the sense of *dàodǎyīpá* is ‘to put the blame on one's victim, to make unfounded countercharges, to recriminate, to counter-attack’.

5.3. Palm (of hand)

Mandarin Min Nan 手耙 *chhiú-pê* ‘palm of one's hand’.

Tupi: Wp *porakape* ‘palm of the hand’, Aik *popyta*, SMa *uy-paapiawa*, .

5.4. Rake

Mandarin 耙 *pá* ‘rake’, Cantonese *paa* ‘rake’, Mandarin 竹耙 *zhúbà* ‘bamboo rake’, Min Dong *bà* ‘rake’, Min Nan Hokkien *pê, pēe, pâ, phâ* ‘rake’, Hokkien 手耙 *chhiú-pē* ‘rake’. Shanghaiese *bo* ‘rake’, Mandarin 木耙 *mùpá* ‘wooden rake’, Mandarin 木齿耙 / 木齒耙 *mùchǐpá* ‘a rake (with wooden teeth)’, Mandarin 耙子 *pázi* ‘a rake’, Mandarin 钉耙 / 釘耙 *dīngpá* ‘rake’, Mandarin 草耙 *cǎopá* ‘a rake’, Mandarin 九齿钉耙 / 九齒釘耙 *jiǔ chǐ dīngpá* ‘the Nine-Toothed Rake’, Mandarin 粪耙 / 糞耙 *fènpá* ‘manure rake’.

Tupi: AsT *o’iapykotsta* ‘maniok rake’, Tub *ybyrybapaba* ‘plowshare’, Tub *ybyaba*, ‘plow the soil’.

6. 包 *bāo*

The morpheme 包 *bāo* has its origin in MCh *paew* from OCh **pru:* ‘to wrap up, to enwrap, to bundle up, to include to encompass, to cover, to place under cover, to assure to ensure to guarantee, to reserve or dedicate for a specific purpose, to make a wrapped item, to surround, bundle; bunch, parcel; package, bag; sack, bump, swelling, yurt, Classifier for packs or bags’.

Observe the occurrence in different Chinese languages: Mandarin *bāo*, Chengdu, Sichuanese *baol*¹, Dungan *bo*, Cantonese (Guangzhou–Hong Kong, *baau*¹, (Taishan) *bau*¹, *bau*¹⁻⁴, Gan *bau*¹, Hakka (Sixian) *pāu*, (Meixian, Guangdong) *bau*¹, Jin *bau*¹, Min Bei *báu*, Min Dong *bǎu*, Min Nan (Hokkien) *pau / pāu*, (Teochew) *baol*¹, Wu (Wugniu), (Shanghaiese): *’pau*, Xiang (Changsha) *bau*¹.

6.1. Assure; to ensure; to guarantee

Mandarin 包管 *bāo guǎn* ‘to assure, to guarantee’.

Tupi: perhaps OGn *mborerobiâ hába* 'obedience, honor, trust, credit'.

6.2. Bag

Mandarin 包 *bāo* 'bag', Mandarin 提包 *tíbāo* 'bag, handbag bag'.

Tupi: *xibará* 'scrotum bag; acc. -rá egg/seed'.

6.3. Classifier

Mandarin 一包薯片 *yībāo* 'a bag of ...; classifier for bags and packs'

CL 包 *bāo* 'classifier for packet, bag, bundle, **to cover**, to wrap, to hold, to include, to take charge of, to contract (to or for), package, wrapper, container, to hold or embrace; CL: 個|个 [ge4]'

6.4. Cover, to place under cover

Mandarin 包 *bāo* 'to cover, to wrap, to hold; CL: 個|个 [ge4]; Mandarin 葆 *bǎo* 'dense foliage to cover'.

Tupi: Pak *ʔaopaw* 'uterus; acc. 'aop < *ʔasob to cover'.

Comment: related to womb, uterus.

6.5. Involve

6.5.1. Mandarin 包括 *bāokuò* 'to involve'.

Tub *apeubandaba* 'outer lining; acc. *-(u)βan to involve'

6.5.2. Mandarin 包括 *bāokuò* 'to involve'.

Tub *apeubandaba* 'outer lining; acc -aba nominalizer'.

6.6. Parcel, package

Perhaps Mandarin 包裹 *bāoguǒ* 'parcel, package CL: 個|个 [ge4], Mandarin 邮包 / 郵包 *yóubāo* 'k. of parcel', Mandarin 裹包 *guǒbāo* 'parcel, to wrap up', Mandarin 包管理器 *bāoguǎnlǐqì* 'package manager'.

Tupi: Tub *puaia* 'order a parcel'.

6.7. Swelling, bump

Mandarin 包包 *bāobāo* 'small bump or pimple, purse, hillock'.

Tupi: SuP -*webá* 'to swell', Tub *guáá* 'bump', PT *-*wa* 'bump'. Tub *popiru'á* 'swelling'.

6.8. Yurt

Mandarin 蒙古包 *měng gǔbāo* 'yurt'

Tupi: Kok *tewepa* 'yurt', AsX -*apyia* 'yurt'.

6.9. Wrap up, to enwrap

Mandarin 包 *bāo* 'to wrap up; to enwrap; to bundle up', Mandarin 包紮 *bāozā* 'to wrap up, to pack, to bind up (a wound)', Mandarin 包裹 *bāoguǒ* 'to wrap up, to bind up, bundle, parcel, package'

Tupi: Kok *anarukan* 'something wrapped', Tub *mba'epokeka* 'something wrapped'.

7. 胞 *bāo*

The morpheme 胞 *bāo* has its origin in MCh *p^(h)aew* from OCh **p^(h)ru*: 'afterbirth, placenta, womb, born of the same parents, born of the same ancestors, fellow country people; compatriot'.

Observe the occurrence in different Chinese languages: Mandarin *bāo*, Cantonese *baau*¹, Hakka (Sixian) *pâu* / *phâu*, Min Nan (Hokkien) *pau*.

Mandarin 胞 *bāo* 'womb, placenta, born of the same parents', Cantonese *baau* 'womb', Hakka Sixian *pâu* / *phâu* 'womb', Min Nan Hokkien *pau* 'womb'.
Tupi: Pak 'aopaw 'womb'.

8. 苞 *bāo*

The morpheme 苞 *bāo* has its origin in MCh *paew* from OCh **pru*: 'bulrush (for making mats and straw sandals), root or stem of plants, growing in profusion, luxuriant, profuse, (botany) bract, bud'.

Observe the occurrence in different Chinese languages: Mandarin *bāo*, Cantonese *baau*¹, Min Dong *bàu*, Min Nan (Hokkien): *pau* / *pâu* / *pô*, Wu (Wugniu), (Shanghainese) ¹*pau*.

Mandarin 苞 *bāo* 'flower calyx, bud, luxuriant, profuse'
Tupi: SuP *holirab* 'flower', Jur *batfjá* 'flower', Xip *batea*.

Conclusions

Based on the above, we believe that three hypotheses are present. 1. The Tupi nominalizer *-(a)ba* and the Chinese Classifier/morpheme *ba* have a common origin as the multiple coincidences are not a consequence of chance. 2. The Chinese classifier/morpheme and the Tupi nominalizer/suffix *-(a)ba*, although similar, are a reflection of independent behaviors of each of the linguistic groups and thus would not have a common origin. 3. The cases studied are still insufficient to align with the two previous hypotheses. I believe this is the most plausible hypothesis.

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ATTACHMENT 1

Ache (Guayakí) – Gyk	Guarani Ñandéva - GnÑ	Piripkura - Pir
Açuã-Tupi - AçT	Guarayo - Gryo	Proto Tupi – PT
Aikewara (Suruí) - Aik	Guayakí (Aché) - Gyk	Proto Tupi Guarani – PTG
Akuntsu - Aku	Itogapúk - Ito	Puruborá - Pur
Amanajé † - Ama	Izoceño (Izozó) – Izo	Ramarama - Ram
Amondava – Amo	Jiahoi - Jia	Sateré-Mawé - SaM
Anambé - Ana	Jora - Jora	Siona - Sio
Anambé Ehrenreich - AnaE	Juma (Kawahib) - Juma	Sirionó - Sir
Anambé do Cairarí – AnaC	Juruna - Jur	SuruíAikewara – Aik
Apapokuva - Apa	Kabanae - Kab	SuruíPaiteir - SuP
Apiaká – Api	Kamaiurá – Kam	Takunhapé † - Tak
Apiãwa - Tap	Kampe – Kmp	Tapieté - Tapi
Ararandewára † - Arar	Karipuna – Kar	Tapirapé – Tap
Arawete – Ara	Karitiana – Kari	Tekó – Teko
Arawine - Arw	Karo – Karo	TembéTenetehara – TeT
Arikém - Ari	Kawahib –Kaw	Tenharin – Ten
Aruá – Aru	Kayabi – Kay	Tuparí - Tup
Aruashi - Aruas	Kepkiriwat † - Kep	Tupi Austral - LGP
Asuriní do Xingu – AsX	Kokama-Kokamilla – Kok	Tupinambá - Tub
Asurini Tocantins - AsT	Kuruáya – Kuru	Turiwára † - Tur
Aure Aura -Aure	Língua Geral = LG18	Txiripá – GnÑ
Avá-Canoeiro - AvC	Língua G Paulista – LGP	Urubu-Kaapór - UrK
Aweti - Awe	Makurap – Mak	Urueuwauwau – UrW
Awré e Awrá -Awr	Manitsawá † - Man	Uruku - Uruk
Chiriguano – Chi	Matanau – Mata	Urumí † - Uru
Chiriguano Ava – ChiA	Mawé – SaM	Warazu - War
Chiriguano Chané - ChiC	Mekéns – Mek	Wayampi - Wp
Chiriguano Tapieté - ChiT	Mondé – Mon	Wayampipuku - Wpp
Cinta-Larga - CiL	Mundurukú – Mun	Wayoró (Ajurú) - Way
Emerillon - Emr	Munduruku Natterer - MunN	Wirafed - Wir
Gavião (Ikõrõ, Digüt) - GaR	Nheengatú LGA – Ñe	Xetá – XeD
Guajá - Gj	Ntogapid-Itogapuk – Ito	Xipáya (Šipaja) - Xip
Guajajara - Gjj	Old Tupí – Tub	Yúki - Yuki
Guarani - Gn	Omágua – Oma	Zo'é - Zoe
Guarani Antigo – OGn	Paraguayan Guarani - PGn	Zoró – Zoro
Guarani Kayová - GnK	Parakanã – Pak	
Guarani Mbya – GnM	Parintintin (Kagwahíb) – Pat	